

Pauline Volckens

[Archive]: "My Him Book"

New York: C.R. Gibson & Company 1922

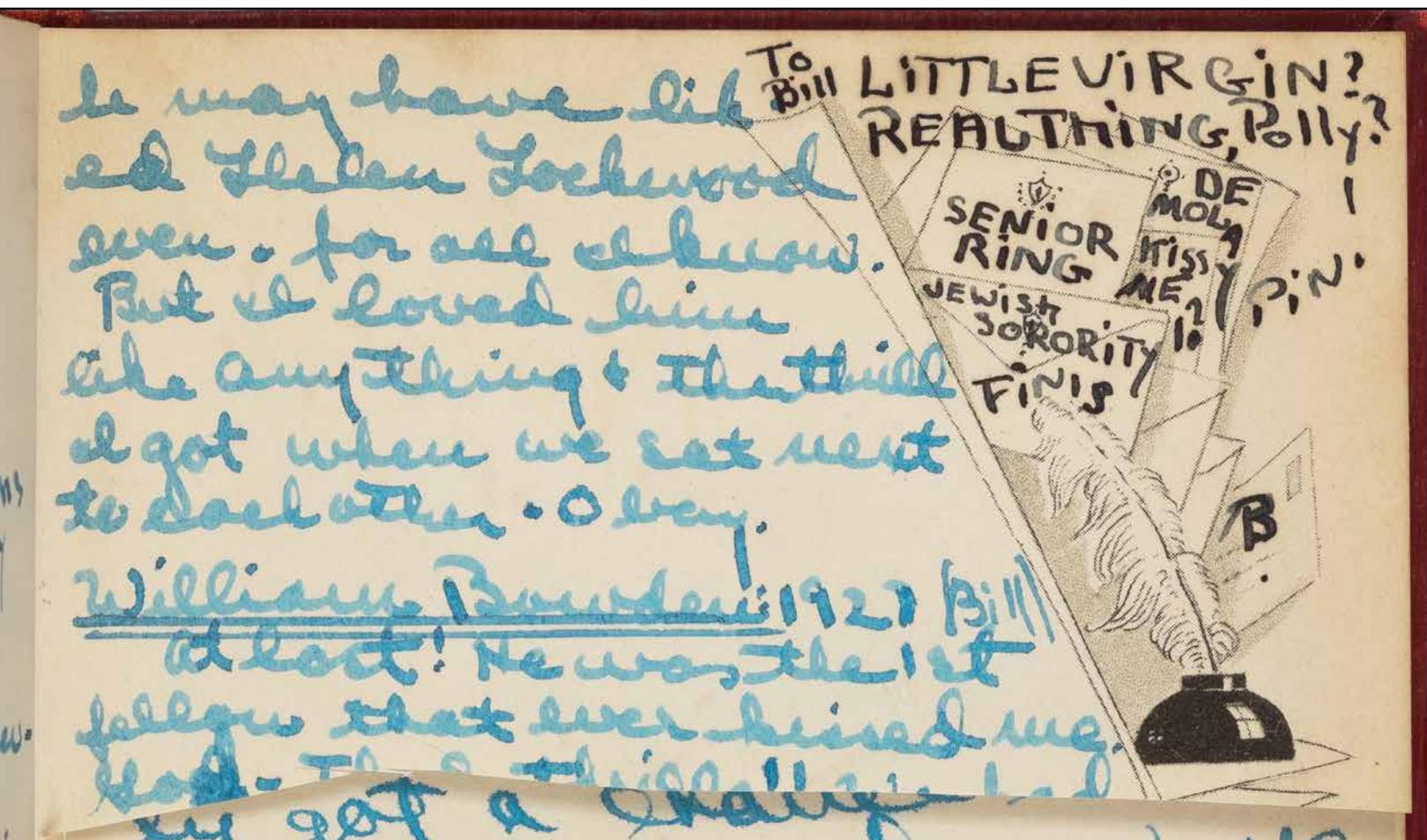
\$950



12mo measuring 4" x 6½". Red cloth with "My Him Book" stamped in gilt on the front board. Designed by Elisa E. Edwards. Very good with detached text block and worn edges. Additionally included is a telegram from 1937 and 18 sepia-toned or black and white silver gelatin photographs measuring between ½" x ½" and 2" x 3" with some captions.

A commercially printed book entitled *My Him Book* used by Pauline Volckens to document her love life in the 1920s. The book features pages reading "First Hims," "Childhood Hims," and "College Hims," among other prompts where Pauline was able to fill out information on her boyfriends, first kiss, and unrequited love during these times. Pauline used 25 of the 33 pages to discuss the men in her life beginning in 1922. An early entry reads, "William Bowden, 1st him that ever kissed me really. Hot stuff but more on that later." In an entry about a German beau she writes, "he was just slightly Jewish." Other entries discuss dating boys to make former boyfriends jealous, not being as interested in a boy as he was in her, and boys she "truly loved." In one of these she writes, "I guess I loved him cause he hated me." On some of the pages Pauline just lists names and dates without further explanations such as under her "High School Hims" and her "Jazz Hims." Under a name in "Sad Hims" she writes that he "fell for that imbecile from the Jewish Sorority when I loved him most." The page entitled "Love Hims" includes small snapshots of some of the boys mentioned in the previous pages numbered in order of when she fell in love with them from 1922 to 1927. The final pages entitled "Notes" to which Pauline has added "on love hims only" she gives further information about some of the most important reoccurring names in the book. One of these, William Bowden, whose name appears throughout the book repeatedly, begins with a repetition of the fact that he was her first kiss. After this the page has been cut out and it appears that Bowden may have been the boy she lost her virginity to but decided to edit out later. On the same page she wrote a caption on the corner illustration which reads, "to Bill, Little virgin? Real Thing, Polly"? Senior ring. Kiss me? Jewish sorority. Finis." Additionally laid in are snapshot photographs including a photo strip of Pauline in full flapper attire.

A modest but interesting journal following a young woman's love life in the 1920s. A selection of images follows. [BTC#427172]





This book belongs to
Pauline Volckhaus





Sport Hims
Jazz Hims

did? 1927

- Clarence New 1927
Richard Leggett 1927
S.H. Jack Beckwith 1927 W
Junior Boone 1927 W
Al Bourroughs 1927
Jack & Mark Hughes 1927
Joe Fowler 1927
Jack Patterson 1927
Larry Libel 1927
Paul Dugthorn 1927



Sad Hims

Werner Hillebrand 1924

I felt awfully sor-
ry for him but I
just don't care about him

William Bowden: 1927

Fell for that imbec-
ile from the Sewal Society
just when I loved him
most.

John Alder: Had to go
to Minneapolis. Nook
but I cried & cried



Love HIMS

- 1 Fenwick Fuller 1922
- 2 Joachim Schewe 1923-25
- 3 John Alder 1926+27
- 4 William Bowden 1927



Just
un-
mention-
able



30-30-
?
? of too
much
trouble to
find out
later



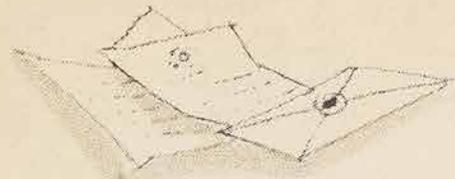
cute -
well
reads



sweet?
ditto
go you

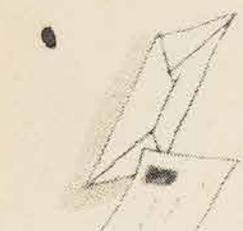
Was in love with R. Vait

HIMS
1925
at the
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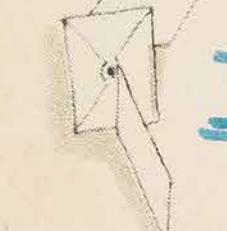
Notes on

LOVEHINS
ONLY



Fennick Fuller: 1922

1st time, but he never kissed me even. It was very childish.



Joseph Schewe: 1923-24

Better already we never kissed but we meshed in a way. Of course we didn't call it meshing but we did just the same. We were together morning, noon & night. I even rode to school with him on the back of his bike.



John Alder: 1926

He was terribly cute but we never got $\frac{1}{2}$ a chance, I went to a party of his, & he was too childish (we both were to have a date

And I guess
it's all over
now

I'm in love -
for the first time -
really in love

It makes the rest - everything
ever before look rick

